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of Diarrhea

Diarrhœa

This disease consists in frequent stools dis-
-charged with or without pain, & sometimes
with a burning sensation in the bowels, &
return, especially upon going to stool, but
seldom with any fever. The discharges are
of a Dark, or green or clay Color. The
two former arise from the existence of
bile with the Stools, - the latter from the ab-
-sence of bile. When the Stools are white,
of a clay color or white, the disease has
been called the Celiac flux. I have supposed
this white humor to be Chyle, & derived from
the liver. In mucus only is discharg-
-ed from the bowels. Of this form of
Diarrhœa I have seen several instances.
They generally ended in Death. I have

but it is sometimes absorbed from
Abscesses in other parts and conveyed out
of the means by means of diarrhoea.

called it a Gonorrhœa of the bowels. Vogel calls
a Leucorrhœa of the bowels from its resem-
=bling that disease in women.
3 Water only is ~~sometimes~~ discharged from
the bowels. This disease in this form is
generally of a transient nature
4 There is ~~sometimes~~ a discharge of pus
from the bowels. This takes place most commonly
in the bowels or
Ulcer ~~work supperates~~ in the liver. It is
now and then tinged with blood; V
5 The Aliment is discharged nearly in the
state in which it was masticated. This
form of the disease has been called Lientery.
The peristaltic motion of the bowels is to much in-
-creased in this last form of Diarrhœa, that
the Aliment passes thro' the bowels in a few
very short time. Jones attended a woman
in Lothian an ingwinal rupture mortified,
and who for several months discharged
not only

the Contents of her bowels thro' it, but even
bowels. ~~The case was~~ was in the practice of observing
the Aliment passing
unchanged particularly pickle or any in-
digestible Substance ~~dead~~ in two or three
minutes from her stomach to the ex-
tremities in her bowels. This woman recovered,
and enjoyed good ~~deal~~ health afterwards.

The discharges from the bowels are
in the day only, or in the night only,
or during both day and night.

~~Therefore in~~ Its remote & exciting Causes act directly upon
the bowels, or indirectly through the medium
of the whole body.

The I are acid bile, chyle, ~~or~~ aliments ~~and~~
~~and~~ drinks. There are few people in
whom some article of diet, or drink or fruit will
not induce this disease. Sour or ascescent, &
half fermented liquors, raw spirits, & many

4
kinds of water often induce it.
2 Drastic purges. I have several times known
a distressing Diarrhœa brought on by an
active Dose of purging physic.
3 Worms. These often induce it in Children.

II The indirect Causes of Diarrhœa are

1 Cold and damp weather inducing obstruction
of perspiration.
2 Miasmatic exhalations particularly
from the privies. I have several times
known it pervade a whole family from
this cause.
3 Protracted heat especially when it is
=ded with the Cool nights. It is produced chiefly
by this cause in Egypt, in the East and
West Indies, and in warm Weather
in Our own Country. In the Southern
States where it has received the name of a
Downwards Consumption, it is often a fa=
=tal disease.
4 The gout often fixes upon the bowels,

and produces a distressing Chronic diarrhea.
5- A dysentery sometimes ~~passes~~ ends in a
diarrhea.
6- ~~The~~ It is now and then produced by prepara-
=ty, also
by the Conflict which takes place in the
System between the Veins and Arteries about
middle life.

The Duration of this disease is from
four or five days to fifteen and twenty years.
I have known two instances in which
it continued for those periods without
shorting life. One of the Subjects of that
protracted diarrhea lived to be 78, and
died of the feebleness of old age. It is remarka-
=ble ~~from~~ that, that it often continues for
years with impairing the appetite, or being
attended with a diminution of fat. I
have

head ofits being attended in One Case with an encrease of fat. But more ordinarely it impairs the appetite, redrues the body in fire and Weight and shortens the Dur-
-ration of life.

The Remedies for this Disease should be suited to the State of the System, and to its Causes.

In all Cases where the pulse is full or tense, or where Signs of fulness appears in the System with a natural pulse, it will be proper to begin the Cure with Bleeding. I do not led to prescribe this remedy by the succesful practice of Dr Sydenham in the diarrhea which follows the measles. The prescription books of our Hospital contain many records of its efficacy in this disease, nor have I employed it with up advantage in

in very private practice. After bleeding,
2 Purges should be employed. Rhubarb in
Substance, in tincture or in Syrups
should be preferred for this purpose.
3 Emetics of Ipecacuanha have been
eminently useful in this disease. They
should be repeated two or three times a
week while the pulse retains any activ=
=ity. They dispose the fluids to a centri=
=fugal direction, and they produce a
counteraction to the increased peristaltic
motion of the bowels.
4 Opiates. These should be given in small
Doses during the day and larger Doses at
night. They may be given with half a gr:
or more of Ipecacuanha three times a day
in the form of a pill, and in the form
of Dovers powder at bedtime. We have

been too timid in the use of this medicine
in this disease, ~~for~~ ~~least~~ last it should bring
on Delirium or an undue degree of Coma.
~~Recollect how to~~ But even this excitement
or depression of the brain would be useful,
for how seldom do we find either of them
or any other disease of the brain with
a Diarrhoea? On the contrary they are
all generally attended with Costiveness.
I believe it would be both safe & useful
to back up the brain & to produce mo-
-bid excitement in it for four & twenty
hours in all cases of Diarrhoea after the
reduction of the Arterial System to its na-
-tural grade of Action.
& Demulcent and Diluting Drinks. The Disease is some-
-times kept up by a morbid secretion in
the bowels; for which reason demulcent and diluting
Drinks should be given in liberal quantities.

16

Even when the Cause of the Disease is not
a morbid Acrimony, the discharge of
Humors from the bowels renders demul-
-cent remedies necessary to supply its place,
and thus to ease the pain which
the Aliments and ordinary contents of
the bowels give by coming in Contact
with the tender Coat of the bowels abra-
-ded of its mucus. These demulcent
Drinks should be flaxseed and mallows
tea, Rice boiled in water, Gum arabic dissolved in water,
with 2/3rd water, peppermint and camomile tea
of a like nature. Even toast tea by diluting
this Acrimony lessens the irritation &
pain given by it by the bowels. I have
seen known a cure performed by it.
6. Astringent & cordial medicines. As

immense number of formulas belong to this Class of medicines. I shall select the most useful of them, and such as I have employed with the most success.

They are 1 The Chalk Julep composed of Chalk from ℥i to ℥ij Liquid Laud: from ℥i to ℥ij Cinnamon or mint water ℥i Common water ℥v. a table spoonful of this mixture should be taken every two or three hours sweetned with loaf sugar, and shaking the Vial. To this mixture may be added occasionally ℥i of the Salt of tartar and from ℥ß to ℥i of the tincture of Gum Kino.

2 Galls ~~bruised~~ ℥ß Nutmegs or Cinnamon ℥ij boiled in ~~℔i~~ of water to ℔ß. Then strain it, and add ~~as much~~ to it Brandy or old Spirit ℔ß and as much loaf Sugar as will make

it pleasant. Of this from a table to a Wine glassfull may be taken three times a day.

3 The powder of Loaf sugar ℥i Brandy ℥ij
Two teaspoonsfuls of this mixture may be taken thus every three or four hours.

4 Fine Wheat flour ℥i. Brandy ℥ij taken in the same manner as the last prescription first stirring it well, & sweetned if agreeable, with loaf sugar.

5 Vinegar and molasses of each equal parts boiled together. Taken a table to a wine glass full of it taken three or fourtimes a day as warm as the patient can swallow it.

6 Pench made into a thin Syrup. I have ~~taken~~ known two persons cured by this remedy.

18 ℥ A sheet of paper boiled in a quart of milk
until it was ~~dg~~ broken into small peices
and intimately mixed with the Milk.
That quantity of this medicine should
be taken daily.

℞ ~~Pulv~~ Chalk ℥vj Pomgranate Bark ℥ij.
Nutmeg ℥j Laud: g^{tt} 36 ~~Ds~~ intimately
mixed and divided into 12 doses one of which
should be taken three times a day. This
prescription ~~is bottle~~ is taken from the
venerable Dr. Heberden whose word alone
is a host of testimony in its favor for he
was a truly good man as well as an able
physician. I have used it often, and
always with more or less success. It
once cured ~~the~~ Dr. Diarrhea of two years

12 V The inner Bark of White Pine
made into a Decoction. When sweetned
it tastes as well as looks like chocolate.
It is an Indian Remedy. Dr James of
Deerfs.

continuance in a patient of mine from
the West Indies.

℞ The powder, and
Infusions of Tormentil root & pomegranate
bark, in water, Spirit or Wine, also the ex=
=tract of the Persimmon of our Country.

℞ white vitriol in doses from 2 to 6 grains
two or three times a day.

℞ Two thirds
Wax melted with one third tar made
into pills, of which two or three should be
taken three times a day. The wax may be
taken dissolved in milk by means of the
white of an egg. — I have done good
with this medicine after all the common
formulas had been given to no purpose.

℞ Linseed tract ℥ss boiled in milk with
a little Starch & loaf sugar in the
proportions mentioned formerly in

by
V ~~Del~~ ℥: all these astringent, Cordial
demulcent and diluting remedies should
be assisted by Glysters. These should be
composed of Infusions of galls, Chalk &
water, Starch boiled in water, milk,
peppermint & Camomile tea. The
Quantity injected of each should not
exceed ℥ix lest the bowels should be
irritated to discharge it by the stimulus
of distention, and from one to two
teaspoonsful of Laudanum should
be added to each of them. Dr Clark advises
a few Grains of tartar emetic dissolved
in water to be injected into the bowels in
order to excite a new action in them.
I have never ~~tried~~ prescribed this medicine,
but I have often advised from ℥ß to ℥i
of Ipecacuanha mixed with ℥ii of water
and a teaspoonful of Laudanum to be given
as an injection with great Advantage.

treating upon the Dysentery. —

V
D Diet and Drinks regulated by the State of the System. If the Stools be dark coloured, the food should consist of Rice in all the usual forms of preparing it, boiled milk, a gruel made of flour tied up in a rag, and boiled for four or five hours, Arrow root boiled with Cinnamon, toasted bread, boiled and Afterwards toasted pota-toes and biscuit. It is common to forbid Summer fruits in this disease, but we have several Cases upon record of its having been cured by Strawberries and black berries. The more ripe fruits should be avoided.

If the Stools be Green, and ~~if~~ sweet Dowr Odor, or if the Stomach be affec-ted with Acidity, or flatulency, the

Diet should consist of ~~Ani~~ mild animal food, such as the lean of fat meat, salted meat, and salted fish & eggs. ~~& Cheese~~ There are cases in which food difficult of digestion has cured this disease such as fat pork, and old cheese. They act by attracting excitement from the bowels, to assist in digesting ~~this~~ them, & thus restrain ~~this~~ increased peristaltic motion. The Drinks taken with this Aliment should be port wine & water, or porter by itself or mixed with water. ~~A dieting and de~~

A Diet consisting exclusively of milk has sometimes cured this disease. A nurse in this city who ~~ate~~ had been afflicted with a diarrhoea for three years was perfectly cured by

Swallowing the milk of a lady whom she
sucked after she has lost her child. This
milk may be imitated by adding a little
Sugar to Cows Milk.

9th. Blisters applied alternately to the wrists
and Ancles act powerful upon this disease
from the Sympathy of the Skin with the
bowels. I have employed them with great
success. A former pupil of mine gained
an immediate establishment in business in Virginia
by curing a respectable Citizen of a diseased
Knee of a Chronic nature by this remedy.
The advantage of exciting this
counteraction upon the Skin is further
evinced by a Cure having been performed
upon a patient who had long been afflicted with this Disease by burning

by
his fort, and the Case formerly mentioned
from Dr Dewin of a patient in the
Infirmiary of Edin^r being cured by being
severely flagellated with a stick by a
person with whom he had quarrelled.

10 The warm Bath. Dr Filton employed a
this remedy with great success in the
Chronic Diarhoea which prevailed in the
American army during the revolutionary
war.

11 The Cold Bath. This remedy cured
the Rev^d Dr Ewing formerly Provost of the
University of Pennsylvania, after all the
usual remedies had been employed in
his Case to no purpose. Both the warm
& Cold bath act like blisters by exciting
the Action of the torpid vessels of the
Skin.

V What would be the effect of exciting an
Action in the blood vessels of the brain
by means of Strong Drink so as induce
a moderate degree of intoxication? It would
probably act in the same way as Opium.

12 Warm Drafts, more especially to the bowels and feet.

13 Tight bandages around the belly. I before mentioned the manner of their action.

14 Exciting the Action of the Arterial Sys-tem. I have twice known it cured by an attack of phrensy, and that too in a single night in one of them which had con-tinued three months. the cold & warm bath probably do good in this way, as well as by exciting the Action of the Skin. V

15 A fabrication. This remedy is highly commended by Dr Clark. I have em-ployed it for many years & always with success. It does service not only by ex-citing a new and revulsive Action in the throat, but it removes Obstructions, or restrains a wrong Action in the Liver

o .

with both of which a Diarrhœa is often connected, and which too often exhibit no marks of their existence. - It is to be regretted that we are not al- -ways successful in producing the mer- -curial disease in the throat & mouth. The Diarrhœa often prevents the Calomel being given internally. In this case we are obliged to rely upon external Applications only which are less certain than when the mercury is ~~to~~ conveyed into the System by the mouth.

16 Exercise on horseback.

17 A Change of Residence. I said for- -merly it was sometimes induced by bad waters and offensive privies. By

removing from both, a cure has some=
=times been effected. A Change of residence
from town to Country, or Country to town,
or from a ~~low~~ low to a high situation,
or vice versa have all been useful
where the disease was not derived from
either of the two causes I have mentioned.
18 A Change of Climate professing that
which is the reverse of the Climate in
which the disease was generated.

19. A Seavoyage: This, if attended with sickness
and Vomiting has often done service in this
disease.

20 Dr Bonet recommends the application of
Astringents to the Soles of the feet. He supposes
they contract the bowels by their sympathy
with ~~the Soles~~ that part of the ~~feet~~ body.

2 As the liver is often affected in this Disease,
what would be the effect of a Caustic applic:
= d to the external region of the liver?

21 I have said our remedies should
be accommodated to the remote exciting
causes of the ~~Disease~~ Disease: All such of them
as are within our power should be
removed, ~~predisposition~~ or the patient
be removed from them. If the Disease
arise from Worms, which is often the
case in Children, they should be destroyed
by the Medicines to be mentioned here-
= after for that purpose. If from gout
all the remedies that are employed to
prevent, or cure it should be prescribed.
The Signs of a favourable issue of this

V chief of diarrhoea from visceral Ob=
=structions, Obstructions in the mesentery,
inflammation & abscesses in the intes=
=tines, and lastly no mark of disease
of any kind a remarkable case of
which is related by Dr Lind.

+ In this case what would be the
effect of Stimulants applied to the
Spine?

disease are

1 When fæces are discharged before wind

in going to stool.

2 Acid ~~and~~ eructations and ~~unfavourable~~ favourable

3 Stools becoming compact after being thin, are

3 A sore or aphtha in the mouth are

always unfavourable. Sore nipples after

they take place.

4 a Lientary is always unfavourable.

It would seem in these cases that the

muscular fibres of the intestines became

paralytic. ~~and~~ in that respect resembled

the properties of the whole body in old

age, for what is old age but a universal

tendency to palsy ? and what is death

from old age, but the extinction of

life from a complete palsy ?

Dispositions of persons who have